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CORTIS

OUTLINE

1.

A short glance at the list of members of the UN reveals a striking difference in comparison to the list of members of the League of Nations. An impressive number of nations having been under colonial rule at the time of the League now are listed among the independent states.

However, three former members of the League -- Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania -- do not appear in this list of independent states, members of the UN. Not because they did not apply for membership, or were not admitted for some valuable reason, but simply because these three Baltic Republics have fallen back under foreign rule while many other nations progressed from the colonial states toward full independence. This foreign rule in the Baltic countries may be not regarded by some formalists as a colonial rule, but it is, nevertheless, much similar to that, and if it differs in some its features from the classic colonial rule, it does rather towards the worse.

2.

The Baltic Republics, while independent, used to be "neutral" and "uncommitted" in regard to relations between the the Soviet Union and non-Communist countries.

Moreover, they:

- a) coexisted most peacefully with their big neighbor -- the Soviet Union;
- b) tried to make trade with the Soviet Union;
- c) avoided any acts which might appear unfriendly toward the Soviet Union.

Nevertheless, they were finally absorbed into the Soviet Union in most vicious way, and were made colonies of that Empire, become oppressed and exploited more ruthlessly and more than any colony in the other parts of the world ever was.

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That happened and is still happening to the Baltic countries may be worth of attention of numerous other countries attracted by the appeal of coexistence, trade, and friendship with the Soviet Union, since the fate of the Baltic countries provides a spectacular example into what such a coexistence, trade, and friendship may develop.

And the present economic, social, and cultural situation in the Baltic countries provides an exact picture of what full and complete sovietisation of an once free country actually means.

Since other countries fallen under control of the Soviet Union are, at least for the time being, left somehow "half way" of complete sovietisation, the Baltic experience is most revealing and even unique in some senses.

Such an experience should not remain unrevealed to whom it may concern, especially to the intellectuals, information media, and youth of the so-called uncommitted countries throughout the world.

4.

The subjects to be told and explained are:

- 1) How the Baltic countries regained their independence in separating themselves from Russia, Resp. from the Soviet Union.
- 2) Baltic-Soviet relations during 20 year period from 1919 to 1939
 - a) diplomatic relations
 - b) trade
 - c) culture
 - d) social-economic structure
- 3) How did it come to the "voluntary incorporation".
- 4) Non-recognition of the incorporation and its implications
- 5) Demographic impact of the Soviet rule in the Baltic countries:
 - a) Suppression (=annihilation) of certain social groups

c) Skills

d) "Voluntary" resettlements of families and youth

e) Enrollment into the army widely connected with the settlement in distant sites after release

f) Colonization of the countries by ruling nation, and infiltration of leading positions in the administration and economy

6) Absolute dictatorship in the political, economic and cultural life

7) Impacts of the economic integration:

a) imposed collectivization of land and its results

b) industrialization of the countries ^{in interest} ~~in interest~~ of the Empire rather than those of local population

c) trade subordinated to the interests of the Empire

d) collectivization of the artisanship after "imperial" patterns

e) super-centralized and complicated bureaucracy

8) Control of mind and isolation from the outer world

The subjects should not be presented rather piece by piece than all at once, and not necessarily only those listed or in the order shown.

They should be presented in ~~both scientific and popular forms~~ both scientific and popular forms simultaneously or alternatively, according to circumstances, target, and possibilities.

The final goal should be to have the subjects presented in the native languages of target countries, in the frames of the existing publications, or in form of special publications.

5.

Prepared presentation of said information may be successfully transmitted to the necessary people in the target areas only by friendly

mediators, living and having suitable positions there.

In the case of Middle and Far East countries, a few Baltic exiles living there would be willing (but not always able) to serve what purpose. But, in using all possible contacts, a number (not necessarily large one) of local intellectuals may be found who would be willing to help the cause. This could be achieved by renewal and tightening of contacts with already existing acquaintances among jurists, professors, journalists, etc.

Especially useful would be the contacts between Baltic and Asian students in the colleges and universities of the United States, as well as of other countries (Europe, Australia, New Zealand, South America).

The network of such mediators could be built up during the period necessary for the preparation of the first portion of the material to be presented.

Some points of departure in establishing that network may be available almost immediately in some countries, for instance, in Egypt, Pakistan, Thailand, Burma, China (ext.), and even India, not to speak about Australia, New Zealand, Latin America and Europe.

6.

In order to carry out such a project, it would be necessary to establish an institution assigned with the following tasks:

- a) collection of already written works on the subjects included into the program (books, studies, articles, memorandums, etc.)
- b) Research and filling the data concerning present developments in the Baltic countries;
- c) planning the order of subjects to be presented and choosing forms of presentation;
- d) organizing the network of mediators, and keeping

necessary contacts with them.

- e) finding specialists available and able to prepare studies or popular presentations of the subjects included in the program;
- f) organizing multiplication and transmission of prepared stuff to the mediators, and making efforts that the stuff be translated into the native languages of the target countries, and used according to the purpose of the project.

7.

A condition sine qua non for the establishing of such an institution is financially adequate sponsorship. No one Baltic exile organization, and not even all of them combined would be able to finance such a project even in the minimum of its scope (not that the project would require ~~any~~ exorbitant amounts of money, but because they do not have money at all...)

Such an institution would be possible only under financial sponsorship of such an organization as the FEC, and it would fit very well in the frames of one of its divisions, best in the frame of the FEP. However, the sign of this or another similar American organization would result in an unfavorable effect in the so-called uncommitted countries, since their "uncommittedness" implies certain suspiciousness for everything what is connected with the "American propaganda" (The same prevails in regard to the political organizations of exiles).

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Therefore, such said institution, actually financed and supervised by the FEC, publicly should appear as an independent institution of scientific character, with no emphasized connections neither with any American, nor with any exile organization or institution.

8.

On the other hand, such an institution would not and should not conceal its main aim; to promote the aspirations of the Baltic peoples for their freedom, bearing in mind the final goal -- the restitution of their free and democratic Republics. In pursuing that aim, in looking for friends and supporters, the institution would also serve the common cause by spreading ^{information} ~~information~~ about the experience of the Baltic countries ~~which~~ ^{which} resulted from the coexistence with the Soviet Union. In pursuing that main aim, the institution would promote the resistance against the Communist "sirens songs" among the people who need warning.

Since it is always better to have such an institution less anonymous as possible, a formal sponsorship given to it by the Baltic Diplomatic Services may make a solution of the problem.

By the term of "Baltic Diplomatic Services" we mean the activity of the Legations and Consulates of the Baltic Republics still existing in some European countries and in the Western hemisphere, and still recognized by a number of Western countries. It would be better to have of the "Diplomatic Services", that of the Baltic Legations in Washington only, in order to avoid the emphasis on the "Americanism" of the institution.

Besides, the institution should show a number of names of trustees or collaborators composing the main body of the institution. They should be professors, publishers, journalists, may be selected businessmen, representing various branches of knowledge implicated in the program of the institution. The number of such trustees could run, for instance, from 7 to 10 of each nationality.

The institution might be called, for instance, "THE BALTIC INSTITUTE", "THE BALTIC STUDIES", or so.

10

The success of the project will depend mainly on the success in establishing the network of the m e d i a t o r s. This is most unpredictable part of the entire project, despite of certain promising and encouraging possibilities in view.

Therefore, it would be not advisable to launch the project in its full scale at once. It should be started on an already existing basis, and developed gradually.

11.

We propose the following method and means for that purpose:

a) The project should be developed within the FEP, under direct supervision of the Director of the FEP, but it has to have an independent name and a separate address for public use.

b) The Baltic editors of the MC-FEP should be charged with the following tasks:

ba) contacting suitable persons among Baltic intellectuals in exile in order to get their consent for cooperation and for using their names on the letterheads showing a list of trustees-collaborators,

bb) to prepare ^a formal presentation of the institution; letterheads, declaration of principles and aims, etc.

bc) contacting prospective m e d i a t o r s in target countries,

bd) organizing preparation of the first portion of the staff to be disseminated.

c) The Baltic editors of the MC-FEP should be appointed members of the Executive ~~Committee~~ Board of the institution while continuing their present duties at least until the project is developed. The Executive Board should look independent group, although it would be

actually responsible and would directly report to the Director of the FEP. The trustees-collaborators shall be invited, not elected, and they shall not have right of vote in the matters of the institution. (The same would be applied in the case ~~of the~~ of the ~~map~~ sponsorship (if any) by the Baltic Diplomatic Services.)

d) The FEP should help (provide) the Executive Board with the following initial means:

- da) establishing the address,
- db) printed letterheads, envelopes, some other office supplies (in small quantities for the time being),
- dc) postage expenses
- dd) a stylist-typist to put into correct English, to type, and to mail the letters (One of the typist in the FEP office could be assigned to do this job which would not be a full time job in the beginning).

12.

All plans for further carrying out of each part of the project shall be ~~presented~~ prepared by the Executive Board and approved by the Director of the FEP.

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TENTATIVE PRESENTATION OF THE AIMS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE BALTIC INSTITUTE

1. The aim of the Baltic Institute is to study the conditions prevailing in formerly independent Baltic countries, and to present the results thereof to the intellectuals, academic youth, and information media of all free and independent countries in order to make known and understandable to them the aspirations of the Baltic countries for regaining their independence in reestablishing their free and democratic Republics.

2. The Charter of the United Nations is the ideological basis of the Baltic Institute. Main inspiration for the Institute's work is contained in the Declaration on Human Rights.

3. The Baltic Institute performs its research and studies work in cooperation with Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, and other scientists and specialists in economics, sociology, laws, international relations, history, arts, etc.

4. The Baltic Institute communicates the results of its studies to the people abroad through the mediation of its correspondents and friendly supporters in various countries, as far as possible — in their native languages.

5. The Baltic Institute primarily seeks that the noteworthy facts about and the lessons learned by the Baltic independence nations be known and understood throughout the world.

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